

Blairs Pond

28.5 acres

Milford

Blairs Pond is the uppermost pond in the Milford Chain of Lakes, followed by Griffith Lake, Haven Lake, and Silver Lake (Milford). Largemouth bass have remained abundant in this pond since 2000. However, the number of fish over 15 inches was below average for Sussex County ponds. In 2005, the bass population was dominated by fish between 11 and 14 inches, which should quickly grow into the larger size group.

This pattern contrasted with the Delaware Sportfishing Tournament, which reported more citation bass from Blairs Pond in 2004 than any public pond except Records Pond, which also exhibits low electrofishing catches of large bass. This may be a function of poor sampling efficiency for bass over 15 inches –or a tendency for anglers to “protect” their big bass fishing locations by reporting fish taken from a nearby pond. Water clarity is also an issue here for anglers. The dense hydrilla coverage results in very clear waters and affects fish behavior.



Both bluegill and black crappie were less abundant in this pond than most Sussex County ponds. Pumpkinseed sunfish, chain pickerel, and yellow perch add to the catch. Both yellow perch and black crappie citations have been reported from this pond.

VEGETATION

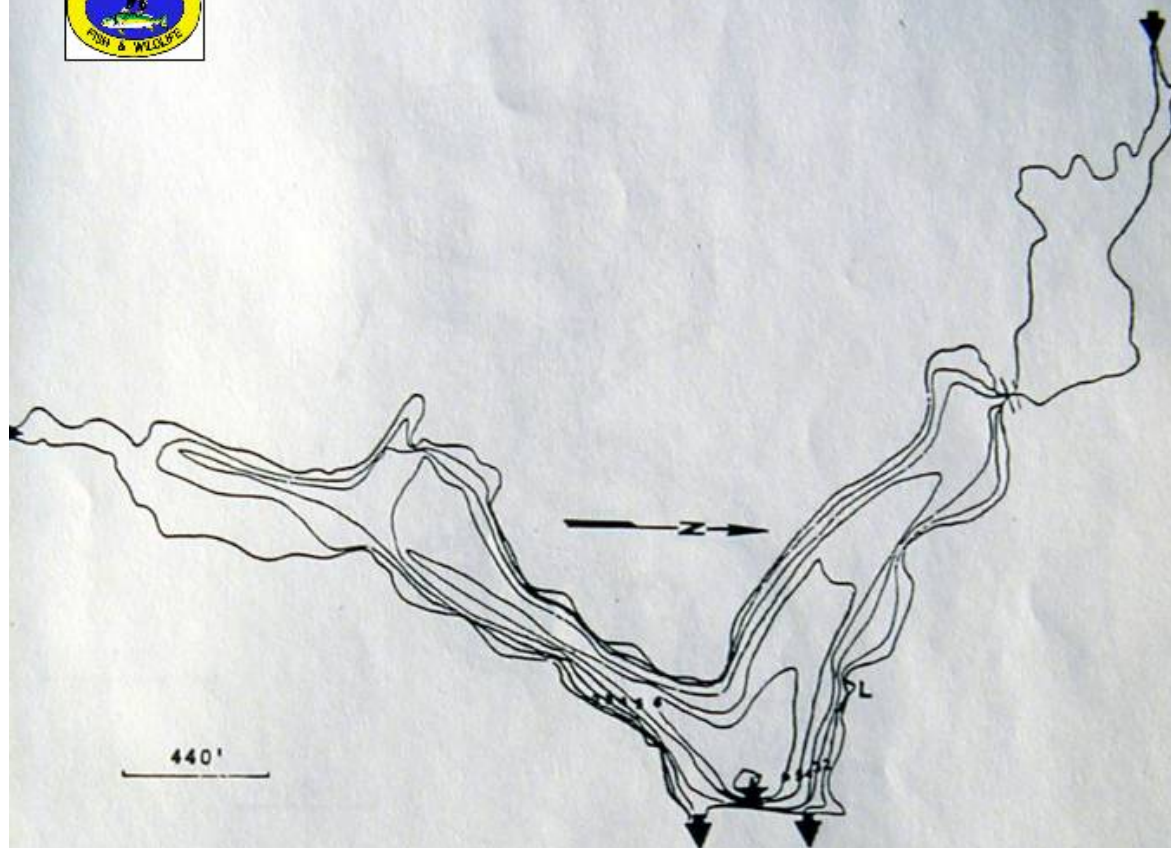
Hydrilla began to infest this pond by the late 1990s and by 2005 had spread throughout the entire pond. The heavy coverage of hydrilla by late summer makes fishing difficult in the shallow upstream areas as the plant tops out on the pond surface. Herbicide treatments in recent years have been used in an attempt to control it.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Much of the western shoreline is accessible to bank anglers making this one of the best ponds for shore fishing. Panfish are often taken from shore along the dike between the two water control outlets. Picnic tables are also available.



BLAIRS POND



Surface acres	28.5
Acre-feet	85.93
Maximum depth	7.0'
Mean depth	3.0'

Legend

Water flow	➔
Launching ramp	L
Fish attractors	★